

CASE STUDY

Truck Offload Terminal Operator Optimizes Profits By Taking Ownership of Butane Blending Operation

The legacy system was now entirely controlled by our client with access to additional benefits including local network access, remote monitoring, customized reporting software, state of the art hardware, legacy bug fixes, enhanced documentation and decreased down time.



Highlights

Overview

- Client's Legacy butane blending system no longer supported. Upgrades to system required to become operational and independent of third-party operator.

Technology

- Allen Bradley
- Wonderware
- SQL Server
- Clear SCADA
- Enterprise

Benefits

- Increased operator control and visibility
- Increased reliability and uptime
- Customized reporting
- Enhanced Butane Blending System documentation
- Client revenue growth

The Problem

A butane blending system owned by our client, but operated by third-party contractor, was to be turned over to the client in entirety. With no access to the underlying architecture, missing critical information data systems (owned by third-party) and issues with unplanned down-time, the client requested our services. Our inspection of the system concluded that critical software and hardware had either been removed by the previous operator or was no longer supported. The system was non-operational in the current state and our team had less than two months to repair, test, and operate the blending operation or our client would face lost profits by the day.

The Solution

Understanding the software and hardware that was preventing the blending operation from functioning was critical. After reverse engineering the legacy system architecture,

we were able to develop new hardware and software solutions critical to running the butane blending system.

An unreliable radio network was retrofitted with fiber communications across the entire system- enabling decreased outages, greater data capture and remote monitoring capability for the client.

Customized reporting is a critical need for any butane blending operation. Proper reporting supports inventory management, EPA compliance and allows for clients to track KPI's. Our team designed a SQL server database that stores and reports critical data from the butane blending operation in real-time.

A full suite of documentation, including drawings, description of operations and a testing and acceptance procedure, was developed and executed within the project timeframe of less than 2 months.

The Results

Our client was presented with a fully functioning, EPA compliant, butane blending system in time for the first day of blending season. The legacy system was now entirely controlled by our client with access to additional benefits including local network access, remote monitoring, customized reporting software, state of the art hardware, legacy bug fixes, enhanced documentation and decreased down time.

About Cardinal Systems Integration

Cardinal Systems Integration is an industry leading engineering group providing full turn-key solutions for the midstream oil and gas industry. Our dedicated team provides customized solutions for projects of any scale. With hundreds of installations completed for North America's largest midstream corporations our goal is to continue our quest for safety while we automate quality and performance.

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105 Hembree Park Dr. Roswell, GA. 30076

770. 727. 2223 | sales@cardinalsi.com

www.cardinalsi.com | 

